

City Hall, MyM Bank,
Memorial Park - any
place or building (any
places can come up)
- all for Pioneer Days
release

Y.
J.S.

August 22, 1982, 4 P.M.

The first time ever for a Saturday afternoon meeting. DWP, JVB, Nan Loftus, Jean Colville, Joe Pascoe and I were present. I presented the T-shirts--to popular approval. Donald and JVB put them on to model them and they were a great hit. Nan wanted the little one (the infant size) and I gave it to her. Joe Pascoe and Nan bought T-shirts and ordered others. We made the final arrangements. I showed them all the handouts for the Lecture and Film Series and they were pleased/impressed. JVB helped staple the handouts on Saturday morning and early afternoon. He called out at the Homestead at 9 A.M. on Saturday morning. He couldn't sleep--he was so excited about Pioneer Days and so he called early. I picked him up around late morning and brought him out and we had luncheon--JVB and DWP and SRP and HLRP and WSP. It was very pleasant. After luncheon we returned to our stapling and did all the week's stapling of handouts--hundreds and hundreds of handouts. I can't really begin to verbalize how grand a person I think JVB is. His attitude is extraordinary. Being friends with JVB is like being a friend with a teenager out of a Winslow Homer etching. John, not unlike DWP and myself, is from another realm and yet is very much a part of the present time. Is it any wonder that JVB and DWP and I are so much attracted to each other. After the City Hall meeting we went to Kurt's--where else; only to find him not at home and to find that Rona Reed had been in an automobile accident that morning. The car was badly damaged but she was not hurt, thank God. I'm not exactly clear on the sequence of events, but I think that DWP and I dropped John off after we returned from Kurt's, although we may have taken him out to the Homestead, which seems more likely. Whenever John is not ready to go home when he is with me or with DWP and me he says after we have just finished doing something: "Well what's next" or "Where are we off to next." I must listen and see just what he says. I wonder if we went to see EAG. No, we did not. Just as we were dropping John off he smelled smoke and discovered that the Round House was on fire. We all got very upset--and JVB most of all. He is so frightened that the railroad engine that is in the Round House will get damaged--and his fears are not unwarranted. We drove immediately to Cemetery Street and parked the car and JVB disappeared over the hill and DWP and I followed. We watched the Round House burn and the kids who probably set the fire watched with us. It was very sad, very sad indeed. I also noted that some more stones in Maplewood have been knocked over--up in the area in the back of Welsh Hill. I was so upset by the fire and the damaged stones I really didn't know how I was going to deal with it all. Nevertheless one carries on. What a distressing way to begin Pioneer Days week. We watched the fire for a while and then drove JVB home and DWP and I went to The Homestead and got ready for Clinton Center's 151st Pioneer Day celebrations, which JVB attended and which I will report on elsewhere.